

March 19, 2020

# Department of Public Works Water & Sewer Connection on Reuse Lot Policy and Procedure

## Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide a guide for the reuse of existing water and sewer connections on residential properties for new residential buildings and structures (including the placement and replacement of manufactured homes) and substantial improvement of existing structures (including manufactured homes) containing not more than three residential dwelling units.

#### General

To minimize the impacts of inflow and infiltration and minimize water loss in the City, the Department of Public Works (DPW) requires new water and sewer connections be installed for all development, including rebuilding or replacement of residential buildings and substantial improvements. Substantial improvements include any reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition or any other improvement which equals or exceeds fifty percent of market value prior to the start of construction.

#### Criteria

#### Water Connection

 All connections shall conform to the requirements of the Building and Plumbing Codes and the Harford County Standard Specifications and Details for Water and Sewer or other applicable rules and regulations of the City.

#### Sewer Connection

- Replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of floodwaters into systems and discharge from systems into floodwaters.
- All connections shall conform to the requirements of the Building and Plumbing Codes and the Harford County Standard Specifications and Details for Water and Sewer or other applicable rules and regulations of the City.

The cost to furnish and install the water and sewer house connection from the utility main line shall be the responsibility of the property owner.

Any work within the City right-of-way or easement must be completed by a Maryland-licensed utility contractor.

Replacement water and sewer connections will not be required to pay an additional connection charge, including any capital improvement charges. However, replacement water meters will be subject to charge.

### Exception

As an exception and unless otherwise approved by the Director of Public Works, existing water and sewer connections may be used provided they are found, by the Director, after examination and testing by the applicant to be in sound condition and compliant with the latest City and County Code.

#### Procedure

The following procedure shall be used to request an exception to reuse existing water and sewer connections on residential properties for new residential buildings, structures and substantial improvement of existing structures.

- 1. Written request
  - a. Existing Water and Sewer Connection Exception Application must be completed.
- 2. The DPW will review the application.
  - a. The following requirements will be used by the DPW when evaluating the exception to reuse existing water or sewer connection to serve a new structure on a residential lot.
  - Must be zoned as a residential use lot.
  - The use of water is equal to or less than the current permitted usage. (Equivalent of one (1) EDU per residential unit or 250 gallons of water per day).
  - Must be proven to be structurally sound.
  - Must serve single residential dwellings only.
  - Must have adequate separation as prescribed by current Harford County Water and Sewer Design Guidelines.
  - The water service line must meet the minimal size for sprinkler installation or have a fire protection engineer's sealed letter confirming that the current line, from the main, is adequate to provide protection.
  - The Water line must use materials that meet the City's materials list.
  - The Sewer line must use materials that meet the City's materials list and pass a sewer video inspection.
- 3. Testing for structural integrity will be the responsibility of the property owner.
- 4. A Copy of the test report, no matter the finding, must be forwarded to the DPW.
- 5. After reviewing the test results, the Director will contact the applicant as to the status of the exception.

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Director of Public Works